GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:228
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
NEW AIRCRAFT WITH AIR INDIA
GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether not a single aircraft has been added to the fleet of Air India since long;

(b) if so, whether it has an adverse effect on its revenue income;

(c) if so, the presents financial position of Air India; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make Air India profitable?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) and (b) :- Air India had recently inducted four A310-300 aircraft on dry lease with a view to augment its routes and passenger carrying capacity.

(c) :- The net loss suffered by Air India during the year 2000-2001 was Rs. 44.40 crores. As per budget estimates for the year 2001-02, Air India is expected to earn a profit of Rs. 21.50 crores. During the first six months of the current financial year, Air India has posted a net profit of Rs. 12 crores and is poised to meet the budgeted profit.

(d) Air India has taken various steps to make them viable which includes :-
(i) withdrawing of capacity from inherently loss making routes and redeploying it on more profitable routes;
(ii) maximising the utilisation of the fleet within the constraints of pilot availability;
(iii) dry leasing of aircraft to augment capacity;
(iv) improvement in inflight service;
(v) introduction of e-marketing effective January 2002 to enable passengers to make on-line bookings through the net;
(vi) reduction in staff strength in India and abroad and
(vii) abolition of several posts of India based officers abroad in the various departments.